NEW YORK HERALD.

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR

OFFICE N. W. CORNER OF FULTON AND NASSAU STS. 

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway, near Broom LUCY RUSHTON'S NEW YORK THEATRE, Nos. 728 and 730 Broadway.—The Day After the Wedding.—The

WOOD'S THEATRE, Broadway, opposite the St. Nichola Hotel.—The Balloon Wedding.—The Widow's Victim.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 BOWERY. -SING-NG. DANCING. BURLESQUES. &C.-THE FEMALE CLERKS

GEORGE CHRISTY'S MINSTRELS.—THE OLD SCHOOL OF MINSTREAM, BALLADS, MUSICAL GRES, &c., at the First Avous Opera House, Nos. 2 and 4 West Twenty-fourth a SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, 535 Broadway, opposite letropolitan Hotel.—Ethiopian Singing, Dancing, &c.— PAPRICAINE OF THE GERMAN OPERA TROUPE.

BRYANTS' MINSTRELS, Mechanics' Hall, 472 Broad way.—Dan Buyant's New Stuar Sprech - Nagro Comidations, Borlesques, &c. --That's My Sister.

ROOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn.—ETHIOPIAN MI NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway.

LECTURE BY JAMES T. BRADY-Before the Blocking all Catholic Association, 781 Eighth avenue.—Songs

New York, Tuesday, January 23, 1866.

## THE NEWS.

### CONGRESS. Yesterday's Congressional proceedings were very inter

esting. In the Senate the first report from the join Reconstruction Committee was submitted, consisting of a proposed constitutional amendment, similar to other heretofore suggested in the House of Representatives, to base Congressional representation on the entire number of population, excepting such persons as are by State denied the voting privilege on account of race or color. A petition was presented from the Boston Board of Trade, asking the passage of an act suspending the operations of the stay laws of the South Boston merchants to enforce their demands for debts due them in the South on the b caking out of the rebellion. A petition of the same character from the Chamber of Commerce of this city was presented some days ago. Senator Clark called up the bil prescrib ag ns for jurors, providing that merely the for mation or expression of opinion, founded on newspaper reports, shall not disqualify for jury duly, and stipulating for the removal from any District or Circuit Court of the United States to the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia of trials for crimes the penalty of which may be death. This bill, the latter section of which is designed to cover the case of Jeff. Davis, was objected to as ex post facto legislation by Mr. Sumner, Mr. Davis, of Kentucky, concurring with him, and it was laid over till Thursday. The resolution to refer all documents relating to the representation of the ex-rebel States to the Reconstruction Committee wa adopted. The bill enlarging the powers of the Freed reau was then taken up, and its consideratio occupied the remai-der of the open session. After speeches by several Senators, the proposed amend-Mr. Cowan, to exclude Mary Kentucky and Missouri from Maryland. Bur au's jurisdiction, was defeated by thirty-thre nays to eleven yeas. Several other amendments were proposed and rejected. An amendment restricting the military jurisdiction to the exercise of officers belonging to it was adopted. Without conclud Bession, and confirmed several Presidential nominations including those for foreign Ministers of Mr. Bigelow t France; Mr. George Harrington, of Georgia, to Switzerland; General Kilpatrick to Chile; George H. Y aman, of Kentucky, to Denmark, and Joseph A. Wright, of ssia. On the opening of the do-

Senate adjourned.

In the House of Representatives a large number of matters were introduced and referred, including bills providing for the defence of our northeastern frontier, to regulate the elective franchise in the District of Columbia by requiring a residence of one year previous to election, to prevent counterfeiting of national currency, for the establishment of a new navy yard on Delaware river, giving pensions to certain soldiers of the war of 1812, granting bounties to the volunteers of 1861 and 1862, providing for payment of national sol-diers kept in prison by the rebets, requiring every person on taking office under the national government to subscribe to the oath of allegiance, for the construction of a ship canal around Niagara Falls, and for the admiss sion of Colorado as a State. Mr. Stovens offered, but subsequently withdrew, owing to absence of an opportunity to explain it, a proposition that our government loan to the republic of Mexico a sum sufficient to pre vent the establishment of a Mexican monarchy. Relutions calling for the trial of Jeff. Davis and other rebels by court martial were introduced and referred to the Judiciary Committee. There was also introduced and referred to this committee a proposed constitu-tional amendment to guard against the office of President becoming vacant by providing for the succession to The same committee were instructed to report whether further legislation is necessary to compel employes of the government in the Southern States to take the to report on the expediency of providing for the payment of national goldiers from the date of their d scharge until they were relieved of duty. The Ways and Means Committee were instructed to con sider the propriety of levying the internal revenue on common eigars and manufactured tobacco. M Grider, democrat, of Kentucky, introduced resolution favoring the immediate admission of the Southern Re-presentatives, which were referred to the Reconstruction Committee. President Johnson was requested to com municate any official information he may have regarding proceedings of the Congress of Colombia in honor of P dent Juarez, of Mexico. A resolution was introduced commending the refusal of President Johnson to accept the gift of a carriage and horses offered to him by New York rehapts, but, after some debate, was laid over. The Reconstruction Committee presented the same report submitted to the Senate, and a long and earnest debate followed on the proposed constitutional amendmen which it contains, Mr. Stevens desiring to press an in: mediate vote on the question, which the democratic members strongly opposed. Finally the report was or-dered to be printed, and was made the special order for

## to-day, after which the House adjourned. THE LEGISLATURE.

Both branches of our State Legislature met at seven o'clock last evening. In the Sonate the pretiminary report of the State census for 1865 was presented and referred to the Apportionment Committee. The bill empowering the managers of the Five Points House of Industry to bind out children, with their consent, was ordered to a third reading.
In the Assembly the report of the New York Prison

Association was presented. Bills were introduced to change the name of the New York Free Academy to New York Free College, to revive and extend the charter of the New York Female Assistance Society, and to authorize the towns on the line of the route to subscrib to and hold stock in the New York and Oswego Mid fand Railroad Company. Mr. Littlejohn introduced a series of resolutions, which were adopted, in relation to our quarantine arrangements, proposing that the Governor be requested to ask the national government, in view of the threatened approach of the cholera, to place gratuitously and temporarily at the disposal of the Quarantine Commissioners such bulks or vessels as may be needed for quarantine purposes, until some other provision is made by law; that our representatives in Congress be requested to urge the passage of an act appro-priating such a sum as, with a like sum which may hereaf. ter be appropriated by the State, will be sufficient for the some isolated location in the bay of hospitals for the reception of the sick, and warehouses for storage of goods and merchandise arriving in the port of New York in vessels subject to quarantine, and that the Commissioners of Quarantine be directed to report at an early day to the House an estimate for the construction of suitable economic atoms for a permanent quarantine establishe sail and residuely was also adopted calling upon the contribution of Public Instruction to report

what amendments are necessary to be made in our present school laws to secure more effectually the educa-tion of every child in the State.

# MEXICO.

es from Brownsville, Toxas, of the 15th inst. give later and more satisfactory details of the capture from the Mexican imperialists, on the 5th, of the town of Bagdad, and indicate the existence of rather delicate relations between the United States and imperial commanders on the respective sides of the Rio Grande. The capturing party numbered about one hundred and twenty, and consisted principally of soldiers of the One Hundred and Eighteenth United States colored regiment, and they made prisoners of over four hundred imperial-ists and took four pieces of artillery. They also attempted to get possession of the imperial gunboat Anto-nio; but in this they failed, there being a few killed and wounded in the engagement. The captors were shelled by a French war vessel on the day following their occupation of the town, but were not driven out. They how-ever left voluntarily soon after, having previously plun-dered the place, and sent their spoil over into Texas, where some of it was seized by General Weitzel and returned to its owners. General Weitzel also sent a guard of men to Bagdad to preserve order. General Mejia, the ander at Matamoros, has commenced now earthworks and the mounting of additional guns, and has sent a rather threatening letter to General Weitzel, who on his side is putting Brownsville in a condition

be prepared for whatever may occur. hip Liberty, which arrived at this port terday from Havana, we have Vera Cruz advices to yesterday from havans, we have voted according to the 13th inst. They show, among other things, a deporable condition of the imperialists at the Pacific port of Acapulco, the republican chief Alvarez having them completely hemmed in and cut off from supplies. Becompletely nemmed in and cut of from supplies. Be-sides this, fever was prevailing among them to a fearful extent, and many of the troops were deserting to the republicans. In the interior fighting is still going on, the imperialists claiming additional victories; but the pirit and energy of the republicans seem to be not in the

## MISCELLANEOUS.

The European mails, with our newspaper files, by the Asia reached Boston from Halifax yesterday afternoon and were despatched for this city in the evening. The are due at eight o'clock this morning. The news h lated to the 7th of January. Its chief points were em braced in our telegraphic summary from Halifax, pub

Addit onal particulars relative to the rumors noticed in the HERALD of Sunday and yesterday, of prospects of an early termination of the war between Paraguay and the allies, are given in our Rio Janeiro correspondence published to day. A Paraguayan steamer, having on board a messenger from President Lopez, with despatches for President Mitre, of the Argentine Confederation, arrived at Corrientes, on the Parana, on the 23d of November last, and delivered the documents in his charge to the chief naval officer of the allies. Though nothing positive concerning the nature of this mission had been learned, it was generally thought at first to mean peace; but it seems not to have been allowed to cause any cessation of allied operations. The Brazilians, it appears, have no great faith in the constancy of their Argentine and Uruguayan allies, who it is espouse the cause of Paraguay. The Brazilian government is therefore pushing forward to the scene of hostilities, with all possible rapidity, all available troops and naval vessels, so as to be prepared even for desertion by its present friends. Lopez continued his efforts to resist the advance up the Para-guay river to his capital of the atlies; but he was deficient in proper sailors to man his vessels. It is said that he has imprisoned the Spanish and Argentine consuls, for what cause is not known.

Freedmen's Bureau for North Carolina, reports that the negroes generally of that State have made contracts for the year and are laboring industriously; that the holidays passed without any insurrectionary demonstrations on their part, and that their minds have become dis-

abused of the erroneous impression that government in-tends to distribute lands among them.

The temperature yesterday in this city and vicinity remained cold, but did not approach the severity of two w.ek. ago. The sky continued unclouded, and the timosphere targe and invigantial e and invigorating, though sharp,

atmosphere vaire and invigorating, though sharp, throughout the day.

There was excellent skating on all the pends yesterday. The Park was splendidly attended, as was the Fifth avenue pend. There will be a grand carnival on the latter pend to-day. Last evening there was a very successful one on Sylvan Lake, Hoboken.

California Fenians have telegraphed to President. Roberts their repudiation of the late O'Mahony Congress in this city. The twolve Senators issued an address to

in this city. The twelve Senators issued an address to the circles before the adjournment of their late meeting in this city. It is brief, and gives interesting facts re-garding the contemplated military movement under General Sweeny and the Senatorial party. It is expected to be the winding up manifesto of the present campaign. An Irish poet is about to produce a poem or "Marseillalie Hymn"—"Sweeny's Address to the Fenian Mon"—to be sung by the Fonians around their camp fires. We give a remarkable stanza of this revolutionary lyric.

The Board of Aldermon held a session yesterday afternoon and transacted a large amount of business. A petition was received from residents of Eighty-sixth street requesting the reopening of the Eighty-sixth street ferry, which was closed on the 10th inst. A protest was re eived from the Citizens' Association against the paywere received from the City Inspector containing ap-pointments of Health Wardens and Assistants for the Seventh and Nineteenth wards, which were confirmed ceived. It gives the number of recorded births in the and the deaths as 24,833. The publication of ten thou-sand copies of "Valentine's Manual" for the year was

The Board of Councilmen held a short session vester. day, and concurred in the resolutions adopted by the Aldermen requesting the New York Members of Con-gress to endeavor to effect the passage of the bill now before the House in relation to a new General Post Office in this city. The President announced the Committee of Arrangements on the Celebration of Washington's Birthday, whereupon Mr. Pullman said he did not wish to serve on any committee with a gentleman who sold his birthright for a mess of pottage. On motion Mr. Pullman was excused from serving upon the committee, Resolutions were adopted directing the Street Con missioner to repair Tompkins park and to have the piers on the North and East rivers renumbered. The Comptroller sent a communication received from the Corporation Counsel, stating that the appropriation of ton thousand dollars was insufficient for opening streets, and that fifty thousand dollars would be required for

that purpose. The paper was referred. The President announced the standing committees for the year, A meeting of the Health Commissioners was held yes terday, at which the probability of the cholers was discussed, and the Resident Physician, in accordance with a resolution adopted by the Board, was appointed to proceed to Albany and call the attention of the Governo and Legislature to the matter. A resolution was also adopted inviting the Mayor and Health Officer of Brook lyn to attend a meeting of the Board to be called for th purpose of taking steps to procure a proper place for the purification of vessels arriving at this port.

The British bark Diadem, under the command of Cap-tain Hannam, which sailed from this port on the 5th inst. for Laverpool, with a cargo of petroleum, spirits of turpentine and staves, was capsized during the gale of the 9th inst., and the captain's wife and two boys belong ing to the crew were drowned. Captain Hannam an four of the crew afterwards died from exposure. The

survivors arrived in this city yesterday.

The failure of the Columbian Marine Insurance Company, one of the oldest of the joint stock marine insurance institutions of this city, was announced yesterday. Its liabilities are estimated to reach six million dollars; but Mr. Phelps, the agent of the company, says that the assets will be sufficient to meet all these and leave a handsome surplus. It was found necessary to close up the concern in consequence of recent very heavy losses, its payments on account of Anglo-rebet piratical depredations alone, it is said, aggregating over a million

The libel case in which Mr. A. T. Stewart, the well The libel case in which Mr. A. T. Stewart, the well known dry goods merchant, is the complainant, and Mesers. Matsell & Mackellar are the defendants, was brought up before Judge Dowling, at the Tombe Police Court, yesterday afternoon. The only persons examined were Mr. A. T. Stewart, the complainant, Mr. Wm. G. Lambert and Mr. Courtland Palmer, merchants of this city. Their testimony went to show that, from the reading of the article in question, they were led to believe that Mr. Stewart was the person referred to. The case was regied without prumped Judge Dowling Bottom.

that if he desired to hear any argument on the matter he would give twenty-four hours' notice to the respec-

In the United States Circuit Court, yesterday, Judge Shipman and a jury, William Kane withdrew his plea of not guilty, and pleaded guilty to an indictment charging him with having uttered forged vouchers against the United States, and was remanded for sen-tence. The trial of William Chase Barney, Reginald Chauncey and Bentham J. Fabian, who are accused of having uttered false and forged bonds, with intent to erade payment of tax on about three hundred barrels of alcohol, was postponed till the 30th inst. In refer-ence to an action in which Collector Draper is sued for recovery of duties alleged to have been illegally levied, Judge Shipman said that in cases in which the government had an interest he would only recognize the Dis ment and an arriver to the person responsible for the conduct of the prosecution, and that if other counsel were to be engaged it must be with the District Attorney's approva-

The case of Captain Peabody, who is accused of having The case of captain reasony, who is according to the ship Nep-tune, was again resumed yesterday in the United States Commissioner's office, before Commissioner Stilwell. Captain Peabody's counsel, in a lengthened address, con-tended that the evidence was not such as should induce the Court to hold his client for trial. He said it was owing to the firmness and resolution of the captain that the ship, which got disabled at sea, greatly to the danger of the passengers' lives, was ever brought safely into port. At the conclusion of this argument the Commissioner expressed the opinion that the defence should

the husband in the case of Ellen A. Price against Joel Price, to show cause why alimony has not been paid a cording to a legal decree. The defence in this motion was, that the wife being deceased, she did not require all-mony; but the lady herself was brought into court and

bodily refuted the assertion.

The General Term of the Supreme Court will meet for

fecisions on the 3d of February. Charles Abernethy and Seth B. Hunt brought suits yes terday in the Court of Common Pleas, before Judge Cardozo, against the Society of the Church of the Puritans. to test the right of the latter to sell pows owned in deed by the former for alleged non-nayment of taxes. The that prevailed in that church a few years ago owing to the peculiar dectrines furminated from the pulpit by its

Vance, charged with cutting John H. Payner with a razor, on the 2d of September, pleaded guilty to an assaul with a dangerous weapon. John C. Leonard was con-victed of an assault and battery on Louis Meyer, of 37% Bowery, the complainant alleging that he discharged a pistol at him. Emil Gereline, indicted for cutting Charles Vestfield in the leg with a knife, on the 28th of Octobe in North William street, was convicted of an assault These prisoners were remanded for sentence. Charles Hegler, charged with firing a pistol at Martin Harrowhut 345 Greenwich street, on the 30th of November, was acquitted, it having been shown that he had no intention to shoot him. Robert Kelly, indicted for cutting Thoma White in the ear with a knife, was also acquitted, as h acted in self-defence. Harvey McLean, colored, made charge of robbery against Daniel and Solomon Johnson; but the evidence was so slight that the jury returned

The trist of Francisco Gone Salvador, alias Pellicer, alias Martinez, was continued yesterday in the Kings county Court of Oyer and Terminer. The entire day was taken up in receiving testimony for the presecution. Mr. Mills, Dr. Willetts, Dr. Cochran, Dr. Ayres, Spanish Vice Consul De Arcy, Madam Flores, Ellen Sullivan and Frank Vola gave their testimony. The counsel for the prisoner tried, but in vain, to shake the evidence of the ast witness. His testimony is important. The trial will

be continued to-day.

Before the trial of Pellicer commenced Charles
Schmidt was arraigned to plead to the indictment charging him with the death of Herman Weichner. He
pleaded not guilty, and counsel was assigned him.

The following were among yesterday's commitments by the city police justices:—James O. Craig, a youth of eighteen, lately employed in the office of the New Haven the agent of the company to get cashed, and five hundred dollars of which he, in company with a companion, had spent in rictous living, the remainder being recovered; Richard Wilson, a boot-black, aged seventees on a charge of burglariously entering and robbin the cigar store 187 Pearl street; William Smith, Charle Nelson and Charles Parker, employes of the steamship Champion, on charge of stealing and secreting, during a late voyage from this port, considerable portions of her cargo, nome of which was recovered, and John Townsend and Charles Birge, on complaint of passing on Eighth avenue shopkeepers counterfeit ten dellar bills on the

John McDonald, the person who was seriously injured during a free fight in Brooklyn last Tuesday night, died at his residence in that city yesterday morning from the effects of his injuries. Four men, charged with having been implicated in the affair, are now under arrest awaiting the result of the Corpur's investigation.

The last uprising of their countrymen was celebrated ast night by the Poles residing in this city at a place in Essex street, where addresses were delivered in the

adopted to form a revolutionary club.

A national soldiers' and sailors' convention n Washington yesterday, about one hundred delegate from various States being present. A permanent organization was effected, and other business was transacted

The City Inspector reports that there have been 434 deaths in this city during the past week a design six as compared with the mortality of the previous week, and 34 less than during the corresponding we'k last and 34 less than during the corresponding we'k last year. Of the deaths recorded 193 were of children less tion, 64: infantile convulsions, 33: marasmus, 18; per diptheria, 14, and from external causes, 35. The inter-ments in the Potter's Field were 37, and there were 61

deaths in the different public institutions.

The stock market was firm yesterday morning, but closed heavy. Governments were dull. Gold closed at 138% a 138%

There was but a moderate degree of activity in any department of trade yesterday, and as a general thing the markets were dull and heavy. Groceries were dull, but without essential change. Cotton was dull and heavy. Petroleum was dull and nominal. On 'Change flour was again dull and lower. Wheat was nominally lower. Corn was entirely nominal. Pork was lower. Lard was heavy. Whiskey was steady.

OUR NEW NOBILITY .- It would seem that this republic is about to attempt a rival; y with the old monarchies in the establishment of a new nobility, based not upon bereditary titles, as in the Old World, but upon what the individuals are supposed to represent on the books of the Internal Revenue assessor. A committee of the New York Chamber of Commerce waited upon the President the other day, as our Washington correspondent relates, and sent in their cards, with the number of millions they were worth appended to their names; for example, "F. S. Winston, President Mutual Insurance Company, representing seventeen millions dol-lars; R. H. Burdell, President of the Eric Railroad, representing sixty millions; H. B. Claffin. the largest merchant on the globe." This immediately suggests the idea of novel titles of nobility. Instead of using the prefix of "Lord" or "Sir," or the affix of "Baronet," "K. C. B.," and so forth, we might have inscribed on the cards of our new nobility, W. B. Astor, forty millions; John Jones, seventeen millions; Augustus Adolphus Brown, ten millions; Theophilus Robinson, twelve millions; Hieronymus Dry Goods, the largest merchant on the globe, and

Our new nobility, who have visited the White House in connection with the New York collectorship, evidently agree with Burns in

idea that
The rank is but the guinea's stamp;
The man's the gold for a' that,
and a' that, and a' that; and especially collectorship of the port of New York.

The Meeting of the French Chambers Was bington for the Speech of Napoleon on Mexico.

From our European news by the Asia it ap-pears that the French Senate and Corps Legis latif had been summoned to assemble on the 22d January (yesterday) and that the opposition deputies had held a meeting at which "they had decided to direct their efforts chiefly to the Mexican question." At the same time from information received from Washington we infer that the Committee on Foreign Affair of the House of Representatives will withhold any report or recommendation in reference this Mexican controversy, until they shall have learned what the Emperor Napoleon has had to say to his Legislative Chambers upon this very mportant subject. It is generally believe that his speech will embrace the declaration of a purpose to abandon his imperial Mexican enterprise, and an explanation to cover his re treat satisfactory to France. At all events we have reason to anticipate that the receipt of the Emperor's speech will be promptly followed by such action on the part of Congress as the ccasion may seem to demand.

That the Emperor's speech will define a line of policy on his part satisfactory to our government we have reason to believe from a late significant leading article in the official Moniteur, and from similar articles from other leading French journals and periodicals. The purpose of Napoleon thus suggested we find very broadly expressed in the Paris correspondence of the Independance Belge of December 31, in which the writer says:-"We expect soon to see in the journals which are the recipients of governmental inspiration, a note which may permit us to see, in no very distant future, the evacuation of Mexico." From the same authority it further appears that "the highest circles" in Paris "are becoming enlightened as to Mexico and very indignant as to Maximilian, who is showing himself at the same time both incapable and ungrateful to France, to whom he owes everything;" and that "it is even regretted that in the framing of his governmen precedents rendered all relations with Juarez mpossible." The French journals, it further appears, are quite disgusted with the indiffer ence and ingratitude of Austria, the Power most directly interested in Maximilian's adventure, but a Power which has given nothing towards his support except an occasional "journalistic paragraph."

All these are but straws, and yet they are sufficient to mark a decided change in the wind, and this change in reference to Mexico may involve a change of Louis Napoleon's policy in reference to Italy, the Pope, the Papal States, Venice and Austria. It is evident that Austria regards with suspicion this Mexican present to Maximilian, that Napoleon begins to feel that it is a bad investment, and that Maximilian is doing all that he can to turn the lables upon his master, like the mock Prince of Como, with his extravagant presents and expenditures. But, in addition to all these embarassments, the Emperor of the French is called upon to determine how his experimental empire in Mexico can be sustained when its recognition in any shape or form at Washington has been officially pronounced "impracti-cable." We cannot, therefore, resist the conlusion that, as Napoleon at Villa Franca made eace when the Italian war began to assure proportions beyond his original estima now with his Mexican scheme, involving him in unlooked for complications, he will gracefully withdraw. We dare say, indeed, that the two bouses of Congress, in waiting for his antici pated announcement of this purpose, are doing

so upon official information. Meantime the liberals in Mexico, baving resuced their predatory warfare to something like a regular system of operations, continue to give Maximilian abundant employment. If he advances his troops to the extremities of his empire the liberals are up in the interior, and playing the mischief even in the suburbs of his capital; as he withdraws his forces from the borders into the interior again, the liberals reoccupy the country behind him. In fact, his authority in Mexico is limited to the places and roads occupied and commanded by his liable at any moment to be cut off by the invisible but omnipresent Juarists. The Mexicans, through half a dozen generations, have been trained to this business. It is their normal condition. They have never known anything else. Thus, against twenty or thirty thousand French, Belgians, Turcos, and native renegades, the liberals can keep Maximilian busy for twenty years to come. The savage alternative of their extermination only makes the matter worse for Maximilian. Two hundred of his Belgians, taken prisoners, have protested against this barbarous system of revenge. They say that "they came to Mexico solely in order to act as a guard to our princess, but whom you (Maximilian) have forced to fight against principles identical with our own;" and that, had the liberals followed the law of retaliation, their lives would have been sacrificed. "Breuer," in behalf of himself and fellow Belgian prisoners, in a remonstrance "to the representatives of the Belgian nation, published in a liberal paper in the centra State of Michoacan, calls upon them to intervene, and says that the Belgian Legion desire to return home, that they have had enough of "this iniquitous war," and he calls "in the name of Belgium, whose honest confidence has

been abused. If such are the sentiments of Maximilian's originally devoted Belgians, it may be imagined that his French soldiers are not overanxious to remain in his somewhat too dangerous and unprofitable service, and it may be supposed, too, that, spart from the great diffi culty of the Monroe doctrine, the Emperor of the French has had enough of his German Emperor and empire over the Mexicans. The empire is a fallure, and we expect in Napoleon's speech, which was doubtless delivered yesterday to his legislative bodies, the announment that the experiment is to be abandoned with certain indemnities to France. Regard ing Louis Napoleon as a sagacious statesm we can, as matters now stand, reach ao other conclusion.

BOSTON AND NEW YORK GRATITUDE.-We have received at this office a contribution of two dollars for the two pilots who rescued the crew and passengers of the ship Mary A. Boardman and passengers of the ship Mary A. Boardman in our harbor on one of the coldest mornings of this season. We perceive that there has been a subscription amounting to eighteen thousand dollars donated in Boston for the capial of the ship Gratitude, who rescued the passengers and erew of the Fredonia, which was wrecked off that coast a short time are. Both

these were British vessels. The Fredonia, sengers, and yet in Boston people contilib thus liberally to reward the British captain, while in the case of the wreck of the Boardman in the waters of New York harbor, the extent of the contribution to the two pilots who risked ficeir lives to save the sufferers, who must have inevitably perished but for their gallantry, is one dollar a head, which has been sent to usabout six cents for the life of every person we observe that some members of the Nev

York Chamber of Commerce who visited President Johnson last week, represented them selves as worth seventeen millions of dollars; and we do not perceive that either the Chamber or the Board of Underwriters, or any other body representing the commercial interests of this community, has done anything towards rewarding these two brave New York pilots for the fearful risk they ran in the cause of humanity. They ought to get ten thousand dollars apiece, and they have received only one dollar. We boast a great deal about our supremacy as a commercial metropolis; but here s a case in which our merchants leave themselves open to the charge of positive meanness. They flaunt before the world their wealth as counted by millions, and yet they take no notice of these brave fellows who exposed their lives to rescue the crew and passengers of a ship almost within sight of the metropolis itself. We hope that this stigma will not be permitted to rest upon the reputation of our representative commercial bodies. but that something will be done to mark the appreciation in which the disinterested services of the New York pilots in this case are

Siam, India, China and Japan-Interesting News from the East.

The Intelligence from the East, which we published yesterday in the letter of our Bangkok correspondent and our extracts from Asiatic papers, was of unusual interest. Our correspondent shows that a vast field for American enterprise is open in Siam. The country exports rice, sugar, pepper, horns, hides and other articles, and imports almost all its luxuries and comforts. A good market for all sorts of muslins, cloths, hardware, machinery, arms, crockery, jewelry and miscellaneous articles exists there, and if properly developed will prove very profitable. The imports have doubled in amount since 1859; but on account of our war the English bave had a monopoly of the trade and its benefits. Before the war the tonnage of our vessels engaged in commerce with Siam was within four thousand tons of the English tonnage; but the rebellion, encouraged by English merchants, drove us out of the business altogether. As the time is approaching for a revision of the treaty tween this government and the Siamese our correspondent calls the attention of our commercial classes to the important interests involved, and suggests that an embassy of high character should be sent to see that our mmercial intercourse is put upon an equal footing with that of England and of Russia. His letter is exceedingly valuable to those concerned in commerce and manufactures, and we hope that it will lead to some practical and udicious action in the matter. From India we learn that the convention be

ween England and Turkey relative to the

overland telegraph has been signed at Con-

tantinople. Thus, while the Latin race, under

the patronage of the Emperor Napoleon, is making unsuccessful efforts to establish a Ger-

man prince upon the ruins of a Mexican republic, the Anglo-Saxon race is pushing those nestimable blessings—the telegraph and the railroad—into the remotest parts of the earth. In such enterprises the Russians cordially join. and that government has recently placed a war steamer at the service of the Collins Company, and has issued special instructions the Russian authorities to render company every possible assistance. In the same budget comes the intelligence that Sir Rutherford Alcock, the English Ambaseador, has consented to ask permission from the Emperor of China for the laving of a railroad from Canton to Pekin. This will entirely revolutionize the Celestials, and do more to civilize them than a dozen wars or a million missionaries. A railroad is now in actual operation in Turkey, and our corres pondent there recently sent us a graphic description of its route. More singular still, a street railroad is being built at Calcutta, and the cars for it were manufactured in this city. of the American pattern, and inscribed in the Hindostanee language, but in the American style. Japan sympathizes in these new movements, though in a very limited degree; but the opening of two new ports on the terms of the existing tariff, although effected by the display of a strong English and French force, proves that the Idea of Oriental exclusiveness is being rapidly dissipated. In a word, all through the East the indications of magnificent change for the better are readily observable; and as this country recovers from the natural exhaustion of a long and gigantic war, and takes a more active part in Asiatic enterprises, the developments will be most extraordinary. This is another argument, if any be needed, for the immediate pacification and reorganization of the country upon President Johnson's plan. We have just lost four years of commercial progress by the war, and, although we have gained compensating advantages, still we cannot now afford to waste valuable time by keeping buil of the nation out of the Union to gratify radical theorists and fanatical politicians.

Has Our Mercantile Marine Actually Declined:
The subject of the apparent decline in the

American mercantile marine is attracting the attention of Congress and the commercial community. The Secretary of the Treasury has submitted to Congress a statement that ship-ping to the amount of nine hundred theusand tone has disappeared from our lists during the past five years, from all causes; eight hundred thousand tons transferred to foreign owners, and about one hundred and ten they sand tone destroyed by rebel cruisers. The aggregate amount of American tonnage before the war was, in round numbers, five millions of tons, showing that about one-fifth of our entire commerce has passed from the protection of the American flag within 'the prescribed time. Referring to the nuraber that preferred a oreign to the American flag during the war, the Secretary says / the owners "transferred their vessels wit's a full knowledge of the sacrifice they facurred, regarding, as it must be supposed. the temporary security trom losses

an equivalent for it," and he should be that ling to advise to their favor any relaxation of the rigor of the law. We do not altogether agree with the Score

tary of the Treasury in his view of this matter, The law by which a vessel once transferred

from the American flag to a foreign one-ex-

cept in specific cases mentioned—was forbid-den to be re-registered in the United States,

was passed as early as the year 1797. At that

time our commerce was a mere cipher com-pared with what it now is. The voyages of

our merchant ships were then confined to a

relatively limited sphere, and the circumnavi-

gation of the globe was scarce, y ever attempted

by our ships. Steam navigation was entirely

unknown. The idea of the occurrence of

rebellion as prodigious as that through which the country has just passed could scarcely have been conceived. In short, the extire aspect of American commerce has since that time been completely revolutionized. was then but an infant has now assumed gigantic proportions. It should be further ren in this connection that it was no fault of Ameri can ship-owners that they transferred their flag. The exigencles of the case demanded it. The nation was unable to protect their vessels on the high seas. Their ships were at the mercy of a few but formidable cruisers of the enemy, and they obviated the difficulty by adopting, what military men do in emergencies, a species of strategy when they have not the strength to cope with a for Another point: These ship-owners did not transfer their flag to the enemy; they did not adopt the ensign of the adversary as a protection. On the contrary, they incurred a double penalty by being discovered sailing under false colors. Some sailed under the British flag, some under the French; others again, indiscriminately, under the flags of Russia, Spain, Portugal, Austria, the Netherlands, Norway, and almost every other known flag. Some vessels that hailed from Hong Kong, China, were built and owned in Boston; and one, recently lost on this coast, hailed from Liverpool, while she was owned and her insurance was paid here. In short, it is a reasonable view of the subject to excuse, if not to and, the conduct of American ship-owners matter, for the reason that, while they protected their own interests at no expense to the govment, they kept open our commerce with for-

us to carry on the conflict successfully. It must be remembered, also, that all these vessels, although ostracized by the Secretary of the Treasury, are still owned by American citizens; that they still, in fact, comprise a portion of the American mercantile marine; that they are insured in American insurance companies, and that all losses are paid by those companies. In reality, our commerce has not been depreciated by the fact of these vessels adopting in an extremity another flag The same amount of capital and the same number of vessels remain here. What the government may have lost by the non-receipt of tonnage duties from them, while under another flag, is a mere bagatelle when compared with what it may receive after our commerce is again fully restored to its late flour ishing condition. If it be necessary to revise the navigation laws in order to restore them to the old flag, now that they again seek its pro tection, by all means do so; and thus we shall be carrying out, not only on land, but upon the seas, President Johnson's admirable reconstruction policy.

eign countries and enabled us to receive, al-belt under a quasi-foreign flag, materials of

war-saltpetre, for one article-that helped

Annual Ratt of the New York Pire De-

THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC GROWDED WITH THE BRAUTY AND PARHION OF THE METROPOLIS. The Academy of Music put on its gayest ettire last night on occasion of the thirty-seventh annual ball of night on occasion of the thirty-seventh anomal sail of the New York Fire Department in aid of the fund for the widows and orphans of deceased members. To dressing and reception rooms and the entrance on living place were crowded from an early hour in the evening and about nine o'clock every seat that commanded a view of the coup d'oil on the platform was occupied. The decorations were of the richest and most elaborate description, yet harmonious in every respect. Clusters, bankets, bouquets, wreaths, festions of flowers, acrossers and flags were pendant in every part of the visit of suspended in mid air, appeal il of gas jets the following inser-

Between these two lines was a large eagle, and ur them the hooks, ladders, axes, freezes and other signia of the department, all ablaze with gas jets. Over inscription was suspended the banner of the departm Grafulla's bands—string and promenate—furnished music for the occasion. At balf past nine o'clock which they are placed. The police arrangements, under the superintendence of Captain Brackett, were admirably conducted and order and enjoyment every whore prevailed. There could have been no less than five thousand persons present, and considering that there were one thousand eight hundred tickets sold, each admitting a gentleman and two ladies, dive thousand will fall short of the actual number that attended the Academy dering the evening. The scene from the second tier was one of brilliancy and splendor. The numerous forms on the platform below sliding through the mases of a quadrille, whirling round in the waits or dishing through the spirited galopade; the glare of myriad, gas jets and the flashing of bright jewels and brighter eyes, the waving streamers and serpentine festions that clung around each pillar, the leader's below directing the grand array of instruments that spoke now in trumpet tone and again in zephyr strain, said the triple tiere of galleries, with their glittering crowd of beauty and fashion, formed a kaleidosoope of sphendor and magnifuence such as bashessh drunken arab news exhibited to Aladdin. Everything passed of satisfactorily, and the only alarms of fire we heard daring the evening were Ainddin. Everything passed of satisfactorily, only alarms of fire we heard during the even caused by that mischievous urchin and inc Cupid, in the hearts of susceptible assume. The little archer found plenty of hery dasts in the ing eyes of Gotham's fairest ladies as attempt a the uninsured hearts of the New York Fire Dep The Mayor, heads of departmants, Common Coumany other distinguished gentleman were present supper was provided at la carte by Mr. Kelley, a most admirably get up.

Personal Intelligence.

Licutenans Governor William Bross, of Illinota, is, about St. Nicholas Botel. Mr. Bross will deliver his lecture upon the late tour across the Plains and the Pacific Railroad, before the Chamber of Commerce, on Thursday evening of the present week.

General C. C. Washburne, of Wisconsin; General M. L. Robinson, of Washington; Bajor General J. B. Steadwan, of Toledo; Hon. Perr Fuller, of Washington, Mapper, of Toledo; Hon. Perr Fuller, of Washington, Mapper, and Market, and Hon. H. M. Rise, of Ba. Paul, are among the guests at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

Secretary Seward Expected at Mavane

We have been disappointed in not seeing Mr. Seward the Captain General has fitted up lais country seat for a see while here, and his avaniers, propose a second und a banquet. The latter, a bear, will not be pormitted We hope to see him before this week is out. Generally the second of Arguelles.

Governor, Curtin at Harrisberg. Governor O', flin arrived here to day, and is a large number of visitors. His message will be the Locis ature next Monday.